

506,390

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
12 September 2003 (12.09.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 03/074583 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **C08G 63/00**,  
63/685, D06M 15/356

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(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP03/00283

(22) International Filing Date: 13 January 2003 (13.01.2003)

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(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
0205277.7 6 March 2002 (06.03.2002) GB

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT (util-  
ity model), AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA,  
CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ (utility model), CZ, DE (util-  
ity model), DE, DK (utility model), DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE  
(utility model), EE, ES, FI (utility model), FI, GB, GD, GE,  
GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ,  
LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN,  
MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC,  
SD, SE, SG, SK (utility model), SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR,  
TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

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GH, GM, IE, IL, KE, LC, LK, LS, MN, MW, NZ, OM,  
SC, SD, SG, SL, SZ, TT, TZ, UG, VC, ZA, ZM, ZW only*):  
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(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,  
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),  
Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),  
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,  
ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SI,  
SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN,  
GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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BY, CF, CG, CH, CI, CM, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK,  
DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, FR, GA, GE, GN, GQ, GR, GW,  
HR, HU, ID, IS, IT, JP, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LR, LT, LU, LV,  
MA, MC, MD, MG, MK, ML, MR, MX, MZ, NE, NL, NO,  
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SE, SK, SN, TD, TG, TJ, TM, TN, TR,  
UA, UZ, VN, YU only*): **UNILEVER NV** [NL/NL]; Weena  
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**Published:**

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the  
claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of  
amendments

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*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-  
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-  
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

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(54) Title: AZETIDINIUM-FUNCTIONALISED POLYMERS AND COMPOSITIONS CONTAINING THE SAME

(57) Abstract: The invention provides a biodegradable azetidinium-functional polyester. This is useful for treating a substrate such as a cellulosic or keratinaceous textile material, preferably in the presence of a carrier. The polymer can be prepared by: a) reacting an amine-containing (di)acid or (di)ol with a suitable co-reactant, and, b) treating the product of step (a) with an epihalohydrin. Preferably step (a) occurs in the presence of a catalyst selected from the group comprising sulphuric acid, p-toluenesulphonic acid and a hafnium(IV) compound. The preferred diacid are iminodiacarboxylic acids in which each carboxylic acid moiety has a carbon number of 2-4. The preferred diols are polyalkylene glycols in which the repeat unit has a carbon number of 2-3.

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